Subletting of Government Accommodation

2806. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received during the last six months against the CPWD employees for subletting Government accommodation allotted to them in Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against them in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) One complaint has been received during the last six months against a CPWD employee for subletting Govt. accommodation in Sarojini Nagar area.

(b) This complaint is in respect of a Type-III quarter bearing No. D-77, allotted to a UDC in CPWD. Action as required under the Allotment Rules has been initiated.

Levy of Property Tax

2807. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MCD has since implemented the unit area method for levy of property tax on properties in Delhi; if so, the details in this regard;

(b) whether the NDMC and the Delhi Cantonment Board are still continuing with their existing assessment procedures; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would issue necessary instructions to the NDMC and the Delhi Cantonment Board for adopting the unit area method of assessment for the sake of uniformity in assessment in the city and also in public interest?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has informed that Unit Area Method of levy of property tax has been implemented with effect from 1.4.2004. As per the method, the tax

payer has to calculate property tax for his property on self assessment basis, taking into account the covered area, use, period of construction etc. and deposit the same with MCD.

(b) The New Delhi Municipal Committee (NDMC) and the Delhi Cantonment Board have informed that the existing assessment procedure is continuing for the year 2005-06. The NDMC has also taken up analysis of the probable impact of the MCD pattern of unit area method and its applicability in NDMC area.

(c) The Ministry of Home Affairs have informed that there is no proposal to instruct NDMC for introduction of unit area method for levy of property tax in NDMC area.

Ban of Human Scavenging

2808. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a strong criticism by the court against non-implementation of ban on human scavenging;

(b) whether any high-level inquiry has been ordered to ascertain whether manual scavenging is still being practiced;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose any time bound action plan to abolish scavenging; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Minstry of Social Justice & Empowerment has intimated that the Writ Petition filed by the Safai Karmchari Andolan and Others *Vs.* Union of India and Others is being heard by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has intimated that the Ministry has not ordered any high-level inquiry to ascertain whether manual scavenging is still being practiced.

(d) and (e) The National Action Plan for Total Eradication of Manual Scavenging formulated by the Government envisages complete eradication of manual scavenging by 2007.